

### Interfaith Harmony Talk - September 11, 2013

Acharya Mahadevanji spoke at an Interfaith Harmony meeting organized on September 11, 2013 at the Church of latter Day Saints in Irvine, California. Spiritual heads of all communities also contributed to bringing a sense of togetherness through Interfaith harmony in a blend of spiritual talks and music.

Acharyaji explained that bringing all spiritual communities together at one common prayer point to talk about this crucial topic on that day was the most appropriate and and spiritually fulfilling and logical thing to do, because every spiritual Master or “God” implied that “Truth is One; people call it by different names.”

Continuing on with the basic injunctions of Sanatana Dharma or Hinduism, the scripture says that the Un-manifested Reality in life is beyond all names and forms –that the Truth shines in and through all beings and is responsible for every name and form to manifest.

*Chanting the words from a Vedantic text the Acharya explained;*

*The Truth is “beyond thought”. In fact it is the very reason that a person can even think.  
In its Eternal glory, It is Un-manifested; yet all manifestations cannot exist without It.*

*It is Ever pure, auspicious, Formless, and its signature is of Peace beyond comprehension (even Christ said similar words) Eternal, the very source of the Creator; being Infinite on character It is One with no Beginning, Middle or End (so it is Infinite). Being Infinitesimal as well, It pervades the entire Universe, with its Essence of supreme Knowledge In fact It is Amazing!!*

A very simple way of even looking at this was in the verse

*“Aakaasaat Patitam Toyam Yadaagacchati Saagaram*

*Sarva Deva Namaskaaram Kehsavam Prati Gacchati”*

*Just as rain water falls from the sky onto the earth and divides into different streams and eventually reach the river, and then the almighty Ocean, so too all prayers sent to the Lord in any form you worship sincerely, with love for the entire universe and it’s Beings, & who is everything goes to the Supreme Unmanifested Lord”*

A great saint Swami Ramakrishna once called together eminent people from across the world for a meeting. He had his waiter bring in some liquid in a glass, and asked everyone to drink and tell him what it was in their language- Some said Paani, Others Jol, Aqua, Thanni and so on.

The Sage smiled and said: Is this all not water?

“Truth is One; people call it by different names”

He concluded with a quote from the Book of Matthew (Verse 7.25)

*"The rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock."*

When everyone is tolerant of all Beings in this spirit of Universal love, it will be, as said in the book of Matthew ( 7.25)

When we work as a community, shedding our petty differences and using the magic glue of Divine love; when we see Divinity or even the Good in everyone, we shall never fall in our Unity.

We can see the Unity in the Apparent Diversity

Why is this so?

*Because it is founded on the solid rock foundation of true, divine love for all beings in the entire Universe.*

My earnest prayer is for all of us to get there as soon as we can.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak to all my brothers and sisters here.